IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Atty. Docket No.:

161765.00417

(3387/01/US)

TREMONT et al.

Serial No.:

Divisional of U.S. Application

Serial No. 10/286,987

Group Art Unit:

TBA

Filed:

December 23, 2003

Examiner:

TBA

For:

Novel Mono- and Di-Fluorinated Benzothiepine Compounds as Inhibitors of

Apical Sodium Co-Dependent Bile Acid Transport (ASBT) and Taurocholate

Uptake

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-captioned patent application, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. It is believed that no fee is due for filing this Preliminary Amendment. However, if there is a fee, please debit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

An AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION section begins on page 2 of this paper.

A LISTING OF CLAIMS reflects claim amendments and begins on page 3 of this paper.

A REMARKS section begins on page 8 of this paper.